

**INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO USE THIS PRE-QUALIFIED POOL OF PROFESSIONAL  
SERVICES FOR DESIGN WORK UNDER \$80,000 PER PROJECT**

**3.1.8.2 Category B - Small Purchase Professional Services Procurement**

*(Code of Virginia § 2.2-4303, G.)*

Category B procurements of professional services are used for projects where the total fees (including reimbursable expenses) are expected to not exceed \$80,000. All contracts initiated as Category B procurements up to \$80,000 are set aside for DSBSD certified small businesses, with at least one proposal from a DSBSD certified micro business. Projects with fees up to \$10,000 are set aside for certified **micro** businesses.

The Agency shall use the following procedures:

1. Advertise and post a notice at least once a year requesting qualifications from A/E firms interested in providing services to the agency on small projects where the fee will be \$80,000 or less.
2. The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) should be similar to an RFP which lists the information desired and the general types of work to be procured using these procedures.
3. Require the A/E response to RFQ to include Forms AE-1 through AE-6, emphasizing their qualifications for the type of small projects for which they seek consideration.
4. Require the A/E response to the RFQ to include evidence of DSBSD certification as a micro business or a small business.
5. Statements of qualifications (Forms AE-1 through AE-6) and RFQ responses shall be accepted at any time to allow new firms to be considered for work and to allow A/E firms to update their qualification forms to show current information.
6. Agencies using this Category B procedure shall sort RFQ responses/interest packages, establish a listing of responding A/E firms by qualification or discipline/capability and file RFQ responses by category for use in selecting A/E firms for interview.

**Fees Up To \$80,000**

When selecting an A/E by Category B procedures for a project with total fees in this range, the Agency shall:

- a. Prepare a Scope of Work and provide it to one A/E who is DSBSD certified as a micro business for an interview. The A/E shall be selected from a list of A/E firms interested in providing services to the Agency on small projects. The firms shall have Form AE-1 through AE-6 on file with the Agency, shall have evidence of DSBSD certification as a micro business or small business on file with the Agency and appear to be qualified and suitable to render the required services.

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- b. Conduct telephone or personal interviews with representatives of the A/E to determine current personnel qualifications, location relative to the work, expertise, workload, capability to meet the proposed schedule, past performance on similar projects and ability to provide the service within budgeted costs.
- c. Consideration should be given to number and value of previous agency and state contracts awarded to each firm. Agencies shall consider the opportunity to maximize the participation of qualified Virginia firms interested in doing such work for the Commonwealth and to avoid favoritism or the appearance of favoritism.
- d. Determine if the A/E is qualified for the work required and, if so, negotiate the fee for services. If the fee is not fair and reasonable,
  - (1) **For fees up to \$10,000**, informally solicit another A/E certified as a micro business from the list of interested A/E firms and follow the steps above for that A/E. Repeated selection of the same A/E firm for these small purchases violates the intent of these procedures. If, upon due diligence, it is determined that no micro businesses in this category exist, are willing to participate, or are appropriately qualified, then a DSBSD certified small business (as opposed to a micro business) may be informally solicited.
  - (2) **For fees more than \$10,000 up to \$80,000**, provide the Scope of Work to a DSBSD certified small business, and repeat until a fair and reasonable fee is negotiated. If, upon due diligence, it is determined that no micro businesses in this category exist, are willing to participate, or are appropriately qualified, then a DSBSD certified small business (a opposed to a micro business) may be solicited initially
- e. Award a contract and post notice of award on eVA.
- f. Use Contract Form CO-3 or Form CO-3.2 and forward a copy of the signed contract to DEB. The CO-3.2 is not appropriate for projects with fees of more than \$10,000.
- g. Issue a Purchase Order on eVA with a reference to the Contract CO-3 or CO-3.2.